

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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ODESSA MAN SENTENCED FOR METH VIOLATION

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that an Odessa, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine.

Kenneth E. Haak, 41, of Odessa, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Fernando J. Gaitan, Jr., this morning to seven years and one month in federal prison without parole.

On July 30, 2004, **Haak** pleaded guilty to being in possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine on July 14, 2003. **Haak** admitted that he was inside his trailer on July 14, 2003, in Odessa, when law enforcement officers were interviewing him and discovered a wooden box containing methamphetamine. Nearly five grams of pure methamphetamine was recovered from **Haak's** trailer. At that time, Graves said, **Haak** admitted that he did sell methamphetamine on occasion.

Prior to his arrest, Graves said, the officers observed a chemical odor, consistent with that of a methamphetamine laboratory, coming from the southwest corner of the trailer. Once inside the trailer, the officers observed a glass Pyrex dish and glass jar containing an unknown liquid sitting on top of a hot plate, which was located on the floor.

During their conversation with **Haak**, law enforcement officers observed him push the wooden box into a cushion behind him. After seizing the box, the officers recovered its contents, which included seven clear plastic bags, each containing methamphetamine, packaged for sale.

Haak was originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on April 8, 2004, in Kansas City.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney David DeTar Newbert. It was investigated by the Jackson County, Mo., Drug Task Force and the Lafayette County, Mo., Drug Task Force.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow